Action Plan for Bonded-Labourers

2109. DR. M.N. DAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any Action plan to rescue bonded-labourers in different states of the country;

(b) if so, whether any concrete measures have been thought of for their rehabilitation and upliftment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has enacted the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 which provides for identification, release and rehabilitation of bonded labourers. The Act provides for setting up of Vigilance Committees at District and Sub-Divisional level under the Chairmanship of District Magistrates and Sub-Divisional Magistrates respectivley, to monitor and review the incidence of bonded labour in their area on regular basis. These Vigilance Committees are empowered to rescue bonded labourers from their employers and take punitive steps, as per the Act.

(b) and (c) The Central Government has formulated a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labour under which assistance upto the ceiling limit of Rs. 10,000/- is given to each released bonded labourer. The expenditure under the scheme is equally shared by Central and concerned State Governments on 50:50 basis. In addition to this, the State Govts. have been advised to suitably dovetail the Centrally Sponsored Scheme with other anti poverty and employment generation programmes like IRDP, JAY, JRY, TRYSEM, DWCRA, Special Component Plan/Sub Plan so as to Pool the resources for effective rehabilitation of bonded labourers.

(d) Question does not arise.

Recommendations of NCBC

2110. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the' Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state;

(a) what are the aims and objects of National Commission for Backward Classes;

(b) what is the criteria being adopted by NCBC for sending its recommendations to Government;

(c) whether the recommendations sent by NCBC are ordinarily binding on the Government; and

(d) the number of recommendations of NCBC rejected by Government and the grounds thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The National Commission for Backward Classes created under the NCBC Act, 1993 has the object to examine requests for inclusion of any class of citizens as backward class in the central list of OBCs and hear complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in the lists and tender such advice to Central Government as it deems appropriate.

(b) The Commission has formulated guidelines for consideration of requests which include criteria covering social. educational and economic aspects of backwardness.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No recommendation of the Commission has so far been rejected by the Government.

अनुसूचित जातियो/अनुसूचित जनजातियों और अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए कल्याण कार्यक्रम

2111. **श्री मुनव्वर हसन** : क्या सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश और दिल्ली में अनुसूचित जातियों, अनुसूचित जनजातियों और अल्पसंख्यक समुदायों के